GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:587
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2000
USE OF ADVANCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN ADMINISTRATION
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy measures are being considered to bring about comprehensive changes in the administration by making use of advanced information technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the improvements likely to be made in the running of the administration by making use of advanced information technology;

(c) whether the information about administration will not easily be comprehended by the general public after the use of advanced technology and the people will have to face more corruption, despotism and inefficiency as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to consider any measures to care of these ill-effects; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) & (b): The process of bringing about changes in administration by using information technology is a continuous one. The application of information technology for Government work on a wide scale has been taking place for more than 10 years. In 1998, a policy decision was taken to keep a provision of 2-3% of the plan budget of each Ministry/Department for programmes/schemes related to information technology. Instructions have separately been issued to all Ministries/ Departments to prepare five year IT plans and to put up web sites with suitable contents. In addition, each Ministry/Department of the Government of India has been asked to designate an officer of the level of Joint Secretary as IT Manager so that thereis a nodal point for handling the use of IT in the Ministry/ Department. These steps would improve the access to information and help focus efforts towards using information technology for improving administrative efficiency.

Use of information technology is expected to significantly improve the access to information which the public need from the Government particularly by making such information available over the Internet. It is expected that over a period of time, it would enable submission of forms electronically and facilitate electronic transactions for some services provided by the State.

(c): No, Sir. Use of information technology is likely to lead to greater access to information by the public.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.